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Claims

1. A method to prevent, treat, inhibit, or reduce restenosis or intimal hyperplasia in adjunct with angioplasty in a human subject, which method comprises locally administering an effective amount of one or more photosensitizer (PS) to a blood vessel site that has undergone angioplasty, and irradiating said site with radiation containing one or more wavelength(s) absorbed by said one or more PS for a time and at an intensity to prevent, treat, inhibit, or reduce restenosis or intimal hyperplasia at said site, wherein the concentration of said one or more PS, the intensity of the radiation, and the total energy provided are adjusted to provide said site with low dose photodynamic therapy.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said administering and irradiating steps are performed simultaneously.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said administering step occurs within 15 minutes of said angioplasty.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said administering step occurs within 10 minutes of said angioplasty.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said angioplasty comprises introduction of a stent.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the photosensitizer is a porphyrin derivative.

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7. The method of claim 6 wherein the porphyrin derivative is porfimer sodium or a green porphyrin.

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8. The method of claim 7 wherein the green porphyrin is BPD-MA or A-EA6.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said irradiating step occurs within 15 minutes of the administering step.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said irradiating step occurs within 5 minutes of the administering step.